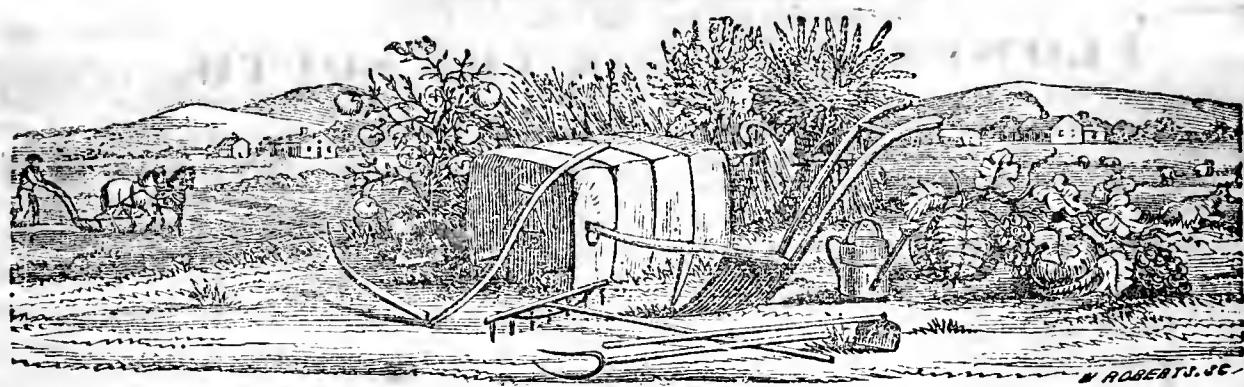


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# THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic and Rural Economy.

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## Plantation Hygiene.

BY R. J. GAGE, FAIR FOREST, S. C.

An ounce of preventive is worth more than a pound of cure.—OLD ADAGE.

Health has been called the regular state of life, fitting man for the performance of his natural duties, and illness the exception, reducing him to the position of an incumbrance upon society, and a constant source of anxiety to himself. The art of preserving health is called Hygiene, the art of restoring it, Medicine.

In the following paper the writer will endeavor to confine himself to the former as closely as possible, yet it will be difficult where preventive and cure so often approximate, to avoid running from one into the other a little.

It has been asserted upon distinguished au-

thority, that the causes of diseases are external; illness in the first instance attacks us from without, and does not emanate from ourselves.—Our first duty then would seem to be, to look around us and endeavor to ascertain the sources whence spring our maladies. This brings us in the outset to the question of location, and before determining that point, it may be well enough to inquire into the truth of the theory of miasma. Are diseases transported from one place to another by atmospheric currents? Are they more readily transported through some channels than others? and is there any preventive that can be relied upon? These are questions of absorbing interest to every planter, and should be closely studied.

During the autumnal months—which may be called the sickly season—the prevailing winds are from the North-East and South-West.—The careful and constant observation of ten years upon a plantation, has convinced the writer of this fact.

A South-West wind, laden with gulfy vapors, sweeping over a warmer and sicklier region, passes over us, to be driven back in a few days condensed by a colder North-Easter, and falling upon us in the shape of dews, fogs or rain. The consequent humidity of the atmosphere at this season makes it an admirable conductor, and fogs may be seen floating up every water course or ravine in the country.

The writer of this article lives upon a high ridge between two pretty large water courses, running nearly North and South. On the South and South-West side he is protected by a belt of forest. Eastward there is a continuous opening, save occasional clumps or belts of

timber, to several streams of various sizes. He has traced at dawn with considerable interest, during the autumnal months, the fog line rising from eight streams east of his residence, and as it floated upwards, delimiting the meanderings of every stream with a remarkable exactness. The negroes upon this plantation were brought from the mountains, in August, 1847. The plantation was an old, worn out one, which had been abandoned and grown up in pine thickets. One of the streams alluded to above, had its source within a few hundred yards of the quarters—south of the quarters, but running eastward. The N. E. and S. W. winds did not waft the fog towards the quarters, and there was no fever upon the place for the first three years. On the fourth year a field of pines east of the quarters, was cleared up, making an opening between the settlement and a large stream about a mile distant N. E., fever and ague immediately made its appearance. A mill was about this time erected upon this stream—the fogs increased in density, and the sickness in like proportion.

A neighbor who lived some eight hundred yards east of us, assured us that "when the fall winds began to bring the fog up towards his house, they were always sure to have ague."

Another neighbor living eight hundred yards N. W. of us, but protected by a forest and pine fields N. E. of him, was entirely exempt from fever and ague; yet his place was once sickly—before the pines grew up N. E. of his house. It is worth remarking, that during all this period, every case of fever and ague occurred during the prevalence of an East or N. E. wind, and as we were protected by forests on the West and S. W., the conclusion seems inevitable that the disease was communicated by means of the fogs which rose from the east of us, and were wafted by the N. E. winds into our immediate vicinity.

Great pains have been since taken in planting trees and encouraging the growth of all kinds of shrubbery east of the quarters, and the opening is now measurably closed—for four years we have not had a case of fever. We have no doubt but that the health of the place may be attributed to the destruction of the mill-dam, and the growth of timber between the quarters and the stream.

Between the belt of woods on our West and S. W., and the neighboring water courses, the whole country has been cleared up, and nearly all the inhabitants are subject to chilis and fever, particularly those residing on branches and hollows communicating with the river.

The inference in this case would be, that the disease was communicated by the S. W. currents sweeping over the river and branches, and driving the fog up the hollows and branches into their immediate settlements.

A very remarkable case occurred within our knowledge a few years since. An old gentleman who had not had a case of fever and ague upon his place for fourteen years, became anxious to feast his eyes upon a field of bottom corn lying between his house and the creek. He had a pine thicket cleared up which intercepted the view, and soon after every member of the family had fever.

A case analogous to the one above, occurred on the plantation of a distinguished gentleman of our acquaintance, many years ago.—A forest of heavy timber was cut down to give a view from the house, of the waving corn fields upon the creek. The place became so sickly that the family was forced to abandon it.

A friend living near us, related a very striking case upon his own plantation, which had made him a convert to miasma. He lived upon a healthy place, belted by woods protecting him from the adjoining streams. He cleared up a hill in front of his house—next year his family had ague. He was much puzzled to account for it, but one morning getting up very early and walking out upon his piazza, he was surprised to see a fog floating over this hill towards his residence. As a ravine on the other side of the hill communicated with a water course, he was satisfied at once as to the cause of fever.

The acute and accurately observing mind of Chancellor Johnson, who has studied Hygiene more closely than any gentleman of our acquaintance, and has had the best opportunities for collecting facts over the whole State, fully sustains us in the above views.

We are satisfied that all exhalations from pools of stagnant water and masses of decaying vegetable or animal substances, are prejudicial to health, and that the planter cannot be too particular in guarding against these dangers.

Wherever heat and moisture exist, decomposition of some sort is apt to be going on, and wherever there is decomposition, there is danger.

All ditches, drains, sinks and manure heaps about the barn-yard, stables or quarters, should be filled up with sand or clay before autumn; or if filled with manure, they should be well covered with clay, charcoal or plaster. We are conscious of running counter to common opinion upon this point, but each in the result of our

experience. We have heard it gravely asserted again and again, by intelligent gentlemen, that manure heaps were healthy. The ammonia you smell may not be so unwholesome, yet the putrefying mass may nevertheless contain disease and death. But the moment you snuff ammonia, you have the proof that a decomposition of animal and vegetable substances is going on, and there is danger about. We take it, that it would be a somewhat difficult matter to prove the difference between the exhalations of pond mud and the barn-yard, so far as health is concerned.

It has been asserted upon distinguished authority, that during the prevalence of cholera in many of the Northern cities, its first appearance and most malignant types, were traceable to sections where heaps of animal and vegetable matter were in a state of decomposition.

The appearance of yellow fever during the last summer on Staten and Long Islands, after a strong wind for several days, blowing directly from a fleet of vessels at quarantine, infected with yellow fever, proves conclusively that yellow fever can be transported by winds. It may be left to the faculty to split hairs about contagions and epidemics—it is enough for the planter to know the facts, and to make an effort to escape the dangers.

A friend of ours, an intelligent and experienced Physician, was much concerned about the appearance of fever upon his plantation—a place unusually healthy—upon examination he was satisfied that it was attributable to large ditches and sinks he had formed in his stable lot to collect manure. They were filled up, and very few cases have occurred on the place since.

We could multiply cases indefinitely, from authority and from personal experience, but every planter or common observation, who will direct his attention carefully to the subject, will soon have abundant proof at his own disposal.

It may seem strange that a doctrine which has been maintained by Poets, Philosophers and Physicians, from the days of Horace, down to the present moment, should require any proof now, but the fact that there are many intelligent persons who still consider it all humbug, makes it the more important that *authority amongst ourselves* should be collected, and *home facts* brought to bear upon a subject increasing in interest as our woodlands disappear and our old lands require restoration. We are between *Saylla* and *Charybdis*—we must make manure to restore our exhausted soil, or cut down our woodland and bring upon posterity three of the

greatest evils—sickness, a scarcity of fuel and of water.

**LOCATION.**—If it be admitted then, that diseases originate from the decay of vegetable and animal matter, and are transmissible by the atmosphere, it becomes the duty of every planter in selecting a building location, to have it well protected by woods from any neighboring water courses, ponds, marshes, ditches or manure heaps, and not at the head of hollows or branches, or at the base line of moisture on the hills.

A negro loves the sun—it is his element, and he basks in its rays, “eon amore.” His quarters should be on the south side of a hill, and never in the shade. No tree should be allowed to stand very near them. He is a filthy creature, and has a proclivity for collecting all manner of litter about his residence, and every means should be used to keep his quarters well dried and well ventilated.

Where the sun’s rays play the whole day, there is not much chance for vegetable decomposition, or danger of exhalations at night. Hogs and poultry are good scavengers, and might be allowed free access during the day-time. The grounds immediately about the quarters, should be kept clean, and if well set in grass, it would be all the better.

**STYLE OF BUILDING.**—We are decidedly in favor of the log cabin style of architecture for negroes. There is no house so well adapted to their habits, and which, the world over, is as healthy. It should be made of round pine logs, skinned—not hewn—16 x 18 feet, double cabin, with chimneys between. The floor should be of good inch plank, and close; cracks chinked or boarded inside, and well daubed without: door on the south side, and window on west end. The roof should be steep and well covered, the plates standing out *flush* over the side-wall, so as to give a good eave and throw off the water from the walls; gables projecting over end-walls 6 or 8 inches. A good rock or brick chimney, by all means, with an ample hearth and broad fire-place. If the flue of the chimney be one-third of the depth or dimension of the funnel above it, it will always be a good drawing chimney. It is no inconsiderable matter in a country where wood is growing annually scarce, to be able to construct a chimney to throw out the greatest amount of heat into the chamber for the least wood. It is just as easy to construct a chimney upon a right, as a wrong principle, and the above may be relied on. If the flue be four inches, the funnel above should

expand to twelve. The cabin should be set, well off the ground, so that the rains can have a free sweep at cleaning out now and then, and the space below should always be kept open. Care should be taken not to crowd too many together, or to put old negroes with young ones. With plenty of wood and good water convenient, food and clothing, Cuffee will make himself very comfortable in winter and summer, in such a retreat.

Convenient to the dwelling of the planter there should be a Hospital, in which the sick could be placed under his immeditate eye. A little careful watching is often worth far more than physic. The negro desponds very quickly, and a dose of physic will often make him think he is sick enough to lay up a month, than that he is well enough to go to work to-morrow.

In all ordinary cases of derangement of the stomach, head-ache and bad colds, an emetic of Ipecac will be found the best preventive of sickness and of possuming—a very common and often troublesome ailment upon a plantation.

**CLOTHING.**—The negro is peculiarly susceptible to cold. In our variable climate, the sudden changes of temperature, the burning noon-day sun; the chilling dews of night, the treacherous S. W. wind of the gulf, the cooler and damper wind from the N. E., are all very trying to the best of constitutions. The negro is naturally indolent—in the profusest perspiration he will take his seat or lay down to sleep in the open air—the pores of the skin become closed—chills follow, and general derangement is a natural consequence. To guard against these casualties as well as possible, he should be warmly clad in the autumnal and winter months.

Fellows should have a woolen sack or jacket (heavy), back and sleeves well lined; two pair heavy woolen pants, two stout osnaburg shirts, two pair of woolen stockings, hat or cap, and one or two good pair of water-proof brogans. If the shoe be saturated top and bottom with a preparation of rosin and lard, (one ounce of rosin to three of lard,) applied warm, it will be almost impervious to water. In addition to the above, each fellow should be provided with a water-proof sack to slip on in snowy weather and in heavy dews. This can be manufactured easily at home at a little cost, not exceeding \$1.25 per sack. Make a loose sack of heavy osnaburgs, fell down the seams, add eight ounces red litharge to five gallons linseed oil—stir well, and when boiling, dip in your sack till saturated, then hang it out to drip. Five gallons will be enough for twelve sacks.

On the best managed plantations it becomes indispensable to perform a good deal of out door labor in misty, rainy weather. Stock must be fed and attended to, wood hauled, miffling done, and a thousand odds and ends brought together, which require exposure.

A negro will do it all cheerfully and safely if you will keep him dry, and it will be also found good economy to do it.

A loose garment, easily thrown off when he comes in doors, or put on when he goes out, and not altogether comfortable to sit down before a fire, is the thing needed. A negro will never pull off a warm overcoat, but will sit down over a fire and go soundly to sleep fully clad.

The women should have one woolen, or two heavy osnaburg dresses, one woolen petticoat, two osnaburg chemises, a woolen sack well lined, two pair woolen stockings, and good water-proof shoes. The sack for the women will be found an admirable contrivance. It can be put off and on so easily, according to the changes of the weather, and is a sufficient protection against the morning and evening dews.

It is all important that the negro should be well clad in winter, and it will be found far the better policy to give him his full allowance of clothing in winter, than not enough, for in summer he will not suffer from the want of it. When you consider that one or two Doctor's bills will counterbalance the cost of all the clothing on the plantation, it becomes a matter of no ordinary moment.

The winter clothing upon the approach of summer, should be washed and put away for safety—during wet days it can be repaired and made ready for fall use. The negro is naturally careless and improvident, and if an eye is not kept upon him, he will take no care of anything he has, be he ever so dependent on it for comfort or enjoyment.

**CHILDREN.**—All children should have woolen clothing in winter—as a protection against fire, it is of the first importance, and as their food is not generally of a heat-generating character, their clothing should supply the deficiency. Infants should have flannel underclothes—a flannel waist worn next the skin will be found very beneficial. Mothers when nursing should be allowed an hour in the forenoon, and an hour in the afternoon to attend to their child, provided the field be convenient to the quarters; and when the child is sick, the mother should stop work, take the child under her own charge, and be held responsible for its treatment. The child always should be weaned when the mother is known to be pregnant.

Negroes are proverbially careless, thoughtless creatures, and it will require even the closest scrutiny on the part of the master, to secure attention to the sick. We have never been able to make any nurse, save the mother, do their duty. The diseases of children are many, but with attention, good nursing and preventive treatment, may be mostly managed without the aid of a Physician, by any intelligent planter. In truth it must necessarily be often but guess work, and it is by far safer to trust to nature's working out her own remedy, than to give physic for, you know not what.

Cold, croup, sore throat, teething and worms are diseases to which children are mainly subject. More children die of teething and worms, perhaps, upon our plantation, than all other diseases put together. One should never hesitate to put the knife into the gums when the teeth are about, and it is always safe in spring and autumn to give the whole pack of juveniles a "worming out." One ounce of fresh pink root to a table-spoon full of coffee, well boiled in a quart of water, and given to the children as morning coffee, for a few days, seldom fails to produce a wonderful change for the better.

An emetic of Ipecac, lice syrup, or a tea-spoon full of pulverized alum, to a table-spoon full of molasses, will often break up a cold, croup or sore throat at once, if taken at the outset. We have found a strip of bacon tied around a child's throat on going to bed at night, often act like a charm in giving relief or checking the approach of diseases of the throat.—

The closest observation, conducted on our own plantation for many years, has convinced us that nearly all the diseases of children are connected with teething and worms, and let the symptoms be what they may, it is the safest policy always to bear that in mind, and not lose sight of it. It is not our province to speak of the treatment.

**BEDS AND BEDDING.**—The straw bed is the only bed for the negro—it is the only one adapted to his habits. It is cheap, wholesome, and can be made comfortable, and can be changed as often as necessary, without trouble—a great item with the negro. A good, clean straw bed can be gotten up in a few hours; a cotton mattress cannot be readily cleansed or dried, and never will be, if it takes much time or trouble to do it. Cotton comforts, we are inclined to think better than blankets. They are warmer, can be made at home easily, as required, and it is the policy of the planter to consume cotton

in every way where it can be done cheaply. Twelve yards of brown homespun or osnaburgs, costing, say ninety-six cents, and four pounds of cotton, costing twenty-eight—\$1.24.—will give you a much more comfortable covering than a blanket costing \$1.50. One good comfort will weigh as much as two or three blankets, and last near about as long. Good osnaburg bed ticks and sheets should be also provided. The bedsteads should be strong, and constructed with mortice, tenon and keys, so that they can be easily taken to pieces, scalded and sunned as may be necessary.

**Food.**—It is admitted, we believe, that a man with a full stomach, will not be as liable to the attack of disease, as with an empty one, for this reason—if not on the score of economy, a negro should always eat his breakfast before he goes out to his working labor. He should be allowed two hours for dinner, and in summer even longer. Corn bread and bacon is the diet of all others best adapted to his wants—it requires the least art in cooking, and is more easily taken care of. The corn bread is nutritious and digestible, while the bacon furnishes him with the necessary amount of carbon to keep up his animal heat, and at the same time abundant nutrient. The negro does not generate animal heat as readily as the white man, and hence requires a greater supply of fatty substances. Peas, beans, squashes, pumpkins and cabbages, all are very nutritious and serviceable. No better diet can be provided for little negroes than sweet potatoes—as the common adage runs, they are milk, bread and meat for them. On every well-conducted plantation, there should be milk for the children, with molasses now and then. It will be found not only to pay well, but to be very agreeable to the negroes, to give out every Sunday morning to each family, a ration of coarse flour (middlings), and molasses or sugar. It is thought that three pounds of bacon during cold weather, per week, and two and a half during the fruit and vegetable season, with meal *ad libitum*, will be sufficient. We prefer weekly allowances—some negroes will be careless and improvident; others gluttonous and thievish. Where monthly allowances are common, it is much more difficult to guard against such occurrences. As contentment promotes digestion, and thereby prevents disease, we approve of the allowance system, giving to each negro or family their weekly allowance, they are always much better satisfied when left to select their own way of cooking, and time of eating.

Many planters argue that the negroes would

enjoy better health to have their food cooked for them. Our experience is to the reverse—the field hands are always healthier than the house servants, or of those who eat at the cook's table. The simplicity of the negroe's diet, the very quiet, happy and lazy way he has of enjoying his vituals, has much to do with his admirable digestion and good health.

Every observant planter must have become aware of the fact, that the diseases common to his plantation, are modified or aggravated by climatic influences, and that they are almost sure to assume the type of any prevailing epidemic. When pneumonias or dysenteries, for instance, are prevalent, the diseases common to the plantation, have a proclivity to run into that type. The planter should have an eye to this matter, and know that in guarding against the one form of disease, he is but strengthening himself against the attack of the other. It is the duty, as well as the interest, of every planter to familiarize himself with the forms or types of diseases common to his locality, to watch their changes, to note the fact that a course of treatment successful during one season, may not be so during another, and that what "may be one's meat, may be another's poison." He can then assist his Physician in unravelling mysteries, and better understand his prescription, and carry out his practice. The ordinary diseases on a plantation, require very little skill in their treatment, but no planter is excusable in attempting the treatment of a disease which he does not understand. He should immediately call in a reliable Physician. The most dangerous and unmanageable forms of disease, are the typhoid types, and it is a matter of great concern that they are daily becoming more common, without apparently being much better understood. The diversity of treatment amongst Physicians who claim to have been successful, (and like Dr. Nott's yellow fever Dr's., it's the rarest thing in the world that you ever see one who has lost a patient,) proves either that the types of typhoid diseases are very different, or their treatment very like guesswork. We believe it to be the experience of most planters who have suffered from this scourge, that it is safer to do too little than too much.

As this form of disease as often makes its appearance in the very healthiest localities, as in the sickliest—upon high, dry ridges and places where the common types of fever are unknown, it will seem probable that it might owe its origin to local causes. We have been

assured by several experienced Physicians that they had found it to prevail mostly where the old style of negro cabins was kept up—low log cabins built upon the ground, and badly ventilated, and the negrees crowded together.

At the approach of the autumnal season, we would advise a thorough cleansing out of the negro quarters; every particle of filth and refuse should be scraped from under the houses and about the yards, and hauled off. A thorough scalding, scrubbing, washing and sunning of every thing within doors, and the inner walls of the cabins be well whitewashed with a salt and lime mixture. Upon all bad smelling spots a solution of copperas (one lb. to four gallons water), might be sprinkled, and charcoal dust or plaster scattered about the floors and yards. These are all very simple experiments—cost very little time or money—can possibly do no harm, and may do a deal of good.

In addition to the protection of the quarters from the influence of winds, by trees, evergreens and shrubbery, it is all important that all pools of stagnant water should be kept drained, and that as deep a system of plowing should be adopted as practicable. If the soil could be broken up to a depth of fifteen or twenty inches, very little stagnant water would be found upon it, and very little mud deposited in the water courses and valleys. The deeper and more thorough the till, the greater the power of absorption and retentiveness. It would seem to be the true policy of the planter then, to use every means in his power to arrest these pestilential gasses which are floating in the atmosphere, and turn them to a fertilizing account.

The experience of the faculty, we believe, has pretty well settled the point, that during the prevalence of epidemics, there will be found more or less, a diseased state of the blood in every individual—a condition predisposing him to disease. If this be true, and it would seem probable, how important is it for the planter, during the prevalence of an epidemic, to adopt every measure to arrest its progress, or modify its type. There is no calculating what evils may be avoided by proper diet, freedom from exposure and watchfulness. It is all-important to take the ball at the first hop.

In addition to the preventives suggested, we are inclined to think that good fruit might be made to play an important part as a preventive of disease. The fact seems to be generally admitted now by scientific persons, that all sub-acid fruits exercise a very important agency in

purifying the blood, and correcting the biliary secretions. A wise and beneficent Providence has not left to chance its distribution, but in all climates where biliary diseases are prevalent, fruit bearing trees are indigenous. The very circumstance of their abounding and ripening during the sickliest season of the year, would incline one to the belief that He who knoweth far better than man, the ills that flesh is heir to, had in His wisdom designedly placed the bane and antidote side by side.

The ancient dogma that fruits were productive of diseases, is fast disappearing under the severe tests of science, and men are beginning to wonder how they had so long confounded the abuse of good things with the use. All the luxuries of life may be indulged in to an excess, but that is no reason for numbering them among our curses.

Negroes will obtain fruit if it is to be found, and it should be the policy of the planter to procure an abundance of the best near at hand. As we before remarked, the danger lies not in the use, but the abuse of the privilege, and it is a principle of our nature to long the most for pleasures prohibited, and abuse liberties charily granted.

When the negro has an abundance of fruit for every day consumption, he will not be found half as apt to be sick, as when he takes a gorge in a neighbor's orchard on Sunday.

For the Farmer and Planter  
That Field of Corn.

MR. EDITOR:—I am glad to learn that the F. and P. is still among the things that are, and to be continued, with brighter prospects, I hope, for the future. It has been some time since we addressed you a line, either privately, or for publication; but our silence has not resulted from any want of zeal in the cause of agricultural improvement, but for reasons it is needless here to mention. For the future we will try and do better.

The first idea that occurs to us in again communicating with the F. and P. is to enquire for our old friend Novice, did he take offence at our strictures on his admirable article on the cultivation of cotton, and withdraw from your list of contributors? Or is it, as Pine-woods aleges, "he is afraid of Broom'sedge". If the latter, we have a drop of comfort for him.

Since last we communicated with your readers we have been in the vicinity of Big Branch, and we saw some things there which we will try to relate. We hapened to have business

(not of a very profitable nature we admit) in that neighborhood, being a stranger, we had to enquire the way, and not being informed that our road led through plantations, we were not a little surprised, to find ourselves at a gate which opened into a large field of corn. We saw at a glance the crop was poor, but it being late in the afternoon, and not knowing our whereabouts exactly, we pushed on until we came upon several head of cattle, which were helping themselves to a few nubbins. We recognised among them a certain Bull which at once arrested our attention, that Bull had taken a premium at our late Annual Fair and belonged to "Broom'sedge." We paused, raised our head and surveyed the field more attentively. Is it possible, soliquized we, that this is Broom'sedge's field, it can't be, that is his Bull, but this is not his field, that Bull is a trespasser. We passed on through another gate, a few hundred yards brought us in sight of a cottage, in passing near a negro house we hailed, and was responded to by a darkey, with whom we had the following dialgue. Who lives here, boy? Col. G. sir, is that his field through which we passed back there? yes sir, have you much old corn in the crib? no great deal sir, considering. Well there is a Bull and several head of cattle in the field you had better get them out. Yes sir, can you direct me to Dr. P.'s? yes sir, which he accordingly did. We passed on, reflecting on the subject of agriculture, theoretically and practically considered.

SPARROWGRASS.

BEANDED THE LION IN HIS DEN.—A bold adventure, friend Sparrowgrass beter put yourself on your defence. We once heard lawyer A. of Cassville, Ga. make a charge against lawyer B, who promptly gave it the dam'd lie, when A, very coolly remarked, "I did not think it would stick, but I thought I would throw it at you." Like A, we are not quite certain your throw will stick, we can try it however believing it to be only a friendly pass at arms.—EP. F. & P.

For the Farmer and Planter,  
On the Propagation of the Peach.

I am somewhat suprised at the frequent enquiry, can the peach be propagated by grafting?

Until within a few years budding was unknown in this section of country, and all kinds of fruit were either grafted or raised from seed. I have been engaged for ten years, upon a limited scale, in growing fruit trees and have been more successful in grafting all kinds of fruits than in budding—indeed I have failed so often

with buds, that I have almost abandoned it, whether from the bungling manner in which it is done, or from other causes, I cannot tell. I usually commence about the last of January, (sometimes earlier) and continue to graft a few peaches, both upon roots and stocks, every week until the first of March. Should any of those upon stocks fail "to take," a sprout will put up and arrive at a size sufficiently large to bud upon by the 15th July or August. Thus I have two chances at the same stock. A budded peach tree will generally bear one year sooner than the grafted, but those grafted will make as fine bearers and every way as good. I have now in my nursery grafted peach trees one year old measuring from five to seven feet in height, ready for the orchard. I have always made splendid failures grafting upon limbs. Graft near the ground so that the earth can be put around well and a majority will live. Do you know Mr. Editor, the pear will grow upon a sweet-gum stock. One of my neighbors had a few fine pears last summer from a tree carelessly grafted on the gum some four or five years since.

"LITTLETON."

January 2d. 1857

"Littleton" will please accept our thanks for the handsome list of thirteen subscribers sent with the above interesting article on peach grafting &c., for which we also acknowledge our obligations, we trust it will not be his last effort in our favor. The grafting of the peach and plum, is an operation, we have successfully performed at different times. We have however succeeded better in budding all stone fruits. Grafting the pear on the sweet-gum is something new to us, we have never heard of it before. If it will generally succeed, it will no doubt prove to be a valuable stock for the pear on land too low and wet for that or other fruit on its own stock.—EDITOR F. & P.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Report on Spanish Spring Wheat.

MR. EDITOR:—As Chairman of a Committee on a contest between twelve competitors with the Spanish Spring Wheat, forwarded to this community by the Hon. James L. Orr; the premium a splendid pair of Boots to the one reporting the greatest yield, I deem it my duty to publish the result through the Farmer and Planter.

The Committee did not weigh, or measure the quantity contained in each paper, but have been informed by one of the party, a gentleman of reliable accuracy, that his weighed one

ounce and a half. And as they were all apparently of the same size, we have assumed this to be the weight of each.

Of all the competitors, two only reported the results of their experiment, viz: J. P. Reed Esq., and the Hon. Alexander Evans. The rest having become discouraged by accidents, and adverse circumstances. J. P. Reed Esq., thrashed and measured thirteen and a half pounds of beautiful white wheat. Whilst the yield reported by Dr. Evans, was about nine pounds. From this statement it will appear, that assuming the amount sown in each case to have been an ounce and a half, that J. P. Reed made at the rate of one hundred and forty four to one.

The Committee have therefore awarded the premium to J. P. Reed Esq. Nor can they call to mind any experiment that has been reported in this country, wherein the yield has so far exceeded the quantity sown.

The mode of cultivation was nearly the same in every instance. The wheat was sown in drill rows from twelve to eighteen inches apart the spaces between the grains, varying from two to three inches. And yet owing to its unsurpassed tendency to branch, or tiller; it in every instance covered the ground to such an extent, as to create fears of its having been too, thickly sown.

Another fact worthy of special notice is the time of sowing, the most forward succeeded best in each case. Mr. Reed's wheat was sown on the 20th February, and harvested on the 25th June. Whilst that of Dr. Evans, was not sown until the 10th March.

The Committee regard the Spanish Spring Wheat, as has been claimed for it, as of unsurpassable whiteness. But although it is, doubtless a very forward species, they do not believe it will mature in ninety days in this country. It is a bearded wheat, which renders it objectionable to many. But its yield under all the circumstances has been such, as to impress the minds of the Committee strongly in its favour. They have no doubt but that if sown in the fall, it would mature with our earliest Spring Wheats, and surpass them all in condensation, and probably yield.

The Committee therefore feel justified in recommending to their fellow citizens, more extensive and varied experiments with this wheat, under the impression that it may yet prove a very valuable acquisition.

O. R. BROYLES, Chairman.

REMARKS.—The Committee will please accept the thanks of ourself and readers for the above in-

teresting report. As will also our friend Maj. Reed and Dr. Evans for making the experiment. It affords us much pleasure to read all such. We congratulate the Maj. on his success in wining the boots, hoping it will be the cause of making a good farmer out of a good lawyer. We are informed that the Maj. has already purchased one or two superior turning plows which is satisfactory proof to us that he is about to begin right—that he is looking a little deeper into matters than most of our scratchers do, with a determination to find the new farm that lies just under the old one. You are right Maj. "pitch into it" and if you do so with the zeal, (which we doubt not, you will,) that you embrace other matters, we will vonch for success. The product from the weight sown, was in both instances very remarkable. Dr. Evans' was an uncommon yield especially when we take into consideration the late date (the 10th of March) at which it was sown, being at the rate of 96 bushels to one sown, whilst Maj. Reed, sown some 18 days earlier yielded 144 to one. We made an experiment with the Spanish Spring Wheat, not with a view however of forcing the greatest possible yield, but rather to know what it would do on poor land. Sown about the middle of February, it grew from a foot to 18 inches high, the head from 2 to 3 inches long and was cut about the 15th June. We did not ascertain the exact yield but it was very light compared to that of our friends reported above.—ED. F. & P.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
State Agricultural Society.

One year of the existence of the State Agricultural Society, has passed away. The first fair has been held. The friends of the cause have been cheered with a four days holiday meeting. The back-bone of the land have met together, freed from the toil and drudgery of every day business. This of itself, will do good, by linking together in industrial and social bonds, the people of our state. Perhaps there never before was a meeting in Columbia, of the same number, so free from perplexing influences. This shows the peaceful, and harmonizing nature of agricultural pursuits.

This should stimulate every man to harness for the work, and go on, without let or hindrance, doing all that can be done, to improve and beautify the field, and the homestead. Then can we meet at our own Annual Fair, each bringing in the trophies of his improvements, industrial energies, and genious into one common stock, for comparison and interchange, bringing good to all. That there should be some small grumbling about premiums, is no wonder, nor, is it a very important matter; better that the five thousand dollars of state munificence should have been squandered on even fan-tailed

pigeons, than that the fair should not have been held at all. We have no doubt, but that all the Officers of the Society, tried to do their duty. Columbia did more than well, and deserves the thanks of every friend of the cause. Let the grumbler go to work, and help to put things right.

We hold there is something more comprehensive at the base of this society, than a mere premium list. In its organization, it looked to the condition of the great interests of agriculture. The downward tendencies of capacity for production, on two thirds of the cultivated lands, was no faint outline, but a broad, and truthful reality, proven and reiteratedly verified on every farm we took upon. The once fruitful fields, are many of them now unsightly and barren wastes; to make bread enough, now, where plenty and to spare once was, requires no common care. To arrest these downward tendencies in the soil, and restore capacity for production, is the first great aim of the originators of this Society, and we hope nothing will ever stop or hinder the accomplishment, of this paramount object. It needs but little intelligent observation, to arrive at the conclusion, that South Carolina, as regards capacity for production is downward to an alarming extent, and unless arrested, must soon reach positive sterility. We wish to draw a picture of facts, however unpleasant it may be to our pride, and every other feeling. Yet if stern truth covers the whole, we must of necessity accept it. Now, fellow citizens, brethren of a common calling, each of you, walk over your farm with me, let us examine the condition of your fields, to test the truthfulness of the picture, look at the galled, denuded, water-worn, and gullied condition of all around, compare it with the past of forty years, and tell us, if our picture of certain, and fast approaching sterility, is overdrawn or too highly colored. There is no mistake in this matter, it is stern reality, and there is no receding, no figures of thought, can pride the fact.

Now to stay the destruction of the soil and bring it, to its original capacity for production should be the end, and aim of the Agricultural Society of the State, the work on which its energies should concentrate every move; it makes should be in furtherance of this greatly needed reform. Every other matter becomes dwarfish, when compared with the all important, and positive duty.

In harmony with this, the Executive Committee offered and gave a premium for the best essay on the improvement of worn out lands, this was we think altogether right, we have not

yet seen the essay, but are anxious to see it and benefit by its teachings.

We were cheered by an article in the December number of the Farmer and Planter, on the cultivation of cotton, it is a sensible thing, and to the point, the writer claims to have increased the capacity of his lands, for the production of cotton, nearly two hundred per cent, with the aid of purchased fancy manures. The writer has grasped the thing right, by first giving status to the soil, by well directed drains for the surface water of our ardent rains, and thus insures the most likely present known plan of retaining, what manures may be put on lands. Mr. Egleberger has set a good example. Every reader, and particularly the members of the Agricultural Society, should be up and doing all he, and they can, in this great and well paying business, report progress, in the farmers organ, and we shall hear no more complaints of agricultural Editors for the want of original matter, for the paper.

We were a little surprised, to hear of the death of the Southern Agriculturist, so young; at the same time we are made glad, to learn that the matter has fallen into the hands of a tried, faithful, and working man. This is now, what it should have been at first, we hope to see our old friend well supported by the intelligent energies of the Society, and the people of the State.

We would here notice an article in the Dec. number of the Farmer and Planter, by D. Johnson Esq. It is another evidence, of what a few intelligent men can do, for the good of the many. The garden and orchard, are inflexes of thrift, intelligence, economising, and good living, or of the opposite, when neglected and defaced by weeds, unpleasant to the eye, and unprofitable in every way. The flower garden has its humanizing influences, brings the mind of the young in harmony, and relation with the beautiful in nature. The kitchen, garden, and orchard, are absolutely necessary to our comfort and health, and should demand the care of every man who owns an acre of land. Such Societies as the one described by Mr. Johnson of Union, must and will have a good influence on all concerned, a spirit of improvement, and laudable emulation was brought out, which resulted in a fair, creditable to all concerned. We wish the Society every success, and only regret, that distance prevents us in joining them in their praiseworthy work.

We trust that the "hope" of the writer of the "notice" will be fulfilled to the brim, "that others seeing what they have done, may go and do likewise."

CHINQUEPIN RIDGE.

January, 10th 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter,  
Fruit Culture.

In a recent number of the Agriculturist, I find that a place has been given to some crude suggestions of mine upon the subject of Fruit Culture. It is some alloy, however, to the satisfaction derived from the compliment of having a place in such excellent company, to perceive several errata both in the words and punctuation: and were it not that the "Carolinian Office" has acquired a well-earned reputation for great accuracy, I should be disposed to cast the blame upon its compositors. As there is however but little ground for this plea I am fain to take the blame upon myself of too great negligence in writing.

In condemning the practice of "mulching" I have felt considerable hesitancy from the fact that it has been most highly recommended by all previous writers: and nothing but a sincere conviction, founded on my own experience and observation of the evils resulting from it, could have induced me to express views so directly antagonistic to those emanating from such high authorities.

For reasons of a like character and with the same diffidence of my own judgement, I have been led to form a different opinion, from many of these authorities on another important point in regard to the transplanting of Fruit trees. They prescribe with much emphasis that the tree should be set at precisely the same depth in the ground, as that at which it had stood in the nursery. Having given this method a fair trial as well as the opposite one of planting several inches deeper; I have been induced by the result to conclude that the deeper planting is better adapted to the general character of our soil and climate. The scorching heats of our summers, the frequent and protracted droughts, and the heavy rains which so often descend upon our lands, all conspire to render a greater depth of earth necessary to protect the roots, when transferred to the open orchard, than was required in the nursery. For besides that in the nursery, the trees are sheltered by each other, in a great degree, from these influences. The small space occupied by it, admits of a far greater choice of location, than is practicable in selecting the sites of orchards on any thing of an extensive scale.

Convenience and the degree of care requisite to prevent injury, and for the protection of the fruit from marauders of various descriptions make it essential that orchards should be near the dwelling; they are, in consequence, with but few exceptions, on grounds which are more

or less broken. Being thus subjected to the full force of the floods of rain, a rapid dislocation of the soil ensues, and the roots are soon exposed to the action of the sun and air. The truth of this position will be confirmed by the slightest observation of the condition of any old orchard or of the shade trees around our houses, even where the declivity is slight. The cultivation required to impart health and vigour to a young orchard, makes it liable to a far more rapid abrasion of the soil from the same cause. In addition to this, the collar (the point of junction between the stem and the root) which has as many eyes as a potato, when thus unrooted, produces every year a liberal crop of suckers which prove as great an evil and are as difficult to eradicate as almost any malady which the tree is heir to. Its living energies being thus impaired the tree declines, ceases to be fruitful and soon perishes.

It is not meant to deny that the deeper planting recommended, may in some degree retard the growth, but this effect is more than counterbalanced by the advantage of greater security against sudden storms of wind in addition to those before mentioned. Besides a new system of dew roots will be thrown out to supply the place of the originals to which a somewhat less delicate beverage has been assigned and with proper attention, the lost ground will soon be regained. There are limits however to be observed in this matter. It is easily overdone, and without doubt, very often is carried to extremes. From two to four inches below the original position, according to the declivity and the tenacity of the soil, will serve as a general rule, and a little care and experience will direct its application to particular instances.

After the fashion of the old story books, I will now add the "moral" of my tale. Three years ago I set out, "by the book," some fifty choice apple trees upon a hill side of *freshly cleared ground*. The rows were laid off by a compass, horizontally, and the land between them carefully graded to prevent washing (and I never knew land to wash less); and yet those trees are now in such a condition of bared roots and rising suckers, that I shall have to take up and reset them if I expect ever to derive any profit from them.

D. JOHNSON.

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### Bee Culture.

"There is a considerable variety of specimens of honey, both in the comb and run, strained out; also of hives, simple and complicated for practical or scientific purposes, but no novelty of

importance. Among 35 hives exhibited, none present any practical improvement. Only one which dates upwards of two centuries ago, is really adapted to the requirements of the bees. To this the depriving system, (which deprives the bees of a portion of their honey without destroying them) was added a century later which ingenuity has since been applied chiefly in complicating hives with various contrivances for ventilation, &c., in no instance producing a return correspondent to the increased expenditure, the chief result being a hindrance to the extension of bee culture."—*Reports of the Series of the World's Fair in London, 1851*, page 66.

The above is the deliberate opinion of men chosen for their scientific acquirements. Among the hives critically examined, were some from the U. S., and which the inventors and others are busily engaged in vending throughout the country. Every dollar thus extracted from the pockets of the bee keepers, is a dead loss. It is not pretended that every man who has invented a bee hive, is of necessity a swindler; but the fact is, so many of them have started upon a wrong basis, knowing but little or nothing of the instincts of the bee, their inventions are more than useless. Mankind (that is, the bee keeping party) have from the days of Aristotle, 2300 years ago, to the present day, been seeking to devise plans by which they could avail themselves to the fullest extent of the labors of the industrious bee, and to simplify its management. To the labors and discoveries of the Rev. L. L. Langstroth, of Philadelphia, the world is indebted for a full and complete elucidation and simplification of all and every matter in connexion with the bee and its hive. Centuries after this he will be (as he now is) entitled to the appellation of the *King Bee of the world*.

It is not my object in this paper to eulogise Mr. Langstroth or his hives, (being an interested party, owing the territory of the Southern States and others,) but simply to call the attention of the planters of South Carolina to the immense amount of honey and its value, that is now wasted for the want of a knowledge how it may be saved. The province of Lauenburg in the Kingdom of Hanover, the Arabia of Germany, so styled by agricultural writers, according to the most reliable statistical tables, supports 141 hives of bees to the square mile. The products pay the entire amount of taxes assessed on the proprietors, and leaves a handsome surplus besides. We have instances cited of an immense number of colonies flourishing to the square mile in other parts of Europe. There is a number of Apiaries in Rusia, Prussia, Poland and Germany, containing from 1000 to 8000 colonies, all yielding handsome returns. From my observations I am satisfied that South Carolina will support a number per square mile, (averaging the State) at least as many as there are in Lauenburg. Admitting only half the number, 70, the result would be 1,715,000 hives; estimating each hive to produce only 20 pounds, the result would be (notwithstanding I know this is a moderate estimate, let there be only 35 hives to the square mile, the product would still

be of great value, to be added to the other agricultural products of the State. My estimate of 20 lbs. honey per colony, might with safety be increased to 50 pounds, and then be far under the mark.) 34,300,000 pounds of honey, beside the vast amount of wax produced. It requires but the will, and the above results can be assured. It is well known there are many enthusiastic bee keepers, who are anxious to procure proper hives and the most reliable method of treatment; others again who take but little interest in the bee, would like to use its products. I will make a proposition to the planters of one or more Districts, by which their property will be much enhanced in value. In a few words it is as follows: If a few planters will each promise a negro of ordinary intelligence, assembled at one locality, to be by them named, I will undertake to give them practical instructions in all the essentials of bee keeping--at least sufficient for them to manage their master's Apiaries to large profits; my remuneration to be in accordance with the actual advantages derived and acknowledged. This may appear a novel plan to some, but I have examined the subject on all sides, and am positive that it is possible to render a negro that is worth only hundreds, worth thousands to his master in a short time, say one or two weeks. I invite correspondence on this subject. That valuable information on bee culture may be as widely demonstrated as possible, I refer the interested to my advertisement in another column.

P. J. MAHAN, Apiarian,  
No. 186, Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

For the Farmer and Planter.

#### Butter.

MR. EDITOR:—Good butter is indeed a luxury to almost every planter in the whole Southern country, and there is, perhaps, no one article of food that is more eagerly sought after, and an exorbitant price more freely and willingly paid, than for good butter; yet how seldom is it that we meet with a good article of home manufacture in any of the Southern markets. Why is it that there is not more attention paid to this most important branch of domestic agriculture, among the planters of this State?

There has been among us a great failure in the manufacture of butter, and to such an extent does this failure exist, that a great many have never seen and do not know what good butter is. We have known many a neat and tidy housewife—an excellent provider, too—pride herself upon her good butter, which, in comparison with some which may be had from some Northern dairies, was not fit to feed a dog upon. This stuff would sell, when fresh, in any of our markets at twenty-five cents per pound, and if the same was carried to Philadelphia, would not bring more than eight or nine cents per pound, and much of it would not be thought fit to grease a cart wheel. We can assure our readers that we do not exaggerate this matter, and if they could taste the sweet, rich, marrowy butter that can be had in the Northern and Eastern markets for seventeen cents per pound, they would ever afterwards appre-

ciate as it deserves the miserable grease they have been accustomed to dignify with the name of butter.

The first requisite to the production of good butter, is *good cows*. By good cows I mean those that will give plenty of such milk as will yield a large quantity of good butter. It is a well known fact that cows running in the same pasture, or fed precisely alike, will afford butter varying much in quality. A poor cow is more injury to the dairy than she is worth, and should, therefore, be rejected.

Cows, to yield good butter, should have—as every farmer and dairy woman knows—good keeping. Plenty of good succulent food, both in summer and winter. Great care should be taken that every thing connected with the dairy should be managed with the most scrupulous *neatness*.

Butter is an article which is very ready to receive a flavor from any gass, or from contact with other substances, unless it is entirely freed from every particle of its mucilage. The mottled or streaked appearance in butter, is owing to the coagulated lymph—coagulated from souring; it is indissoluble in water, and can never be worked out of the butter. Salt should not be added at the commencement of the first working, as it is known to every housewife salt will curdle sour buttermilk, and should be also known that curd once formed in with butter can never be worked out. They can work out the whey, and leave the butter appearantly dry, but the cause of the mischief is still left, incipient decay has already commenced in the coagulum or curd, and will proceed unless something can be applied that will put an entire stop to it.

Experience has led me to deprecate the practice of *washing* butter when it can possibly be managed without it. Butter that comes so soft as to require cold water to harden it, cannot by washing be made to keep sweet any length of time. When the butter is taken from the churn, and the buttermilk is worked out, put in  $1\frac{1}{4}$  ounces best salt to one pound of butter, or if the buttermilk is not well worked out, more salt will be needed; set it away in moss for 24 hours, in a cool place; when every particle of moisture should be extracted, and the butter made into rolls or prints for use. For this purpose a flat, smooth board or marble slab is necessary; a flat surface is preferable to a dish, as you can more easily get rid of the moisture from the butter. Some use a wooden slice or spatula to handle the butter with; this requires more strength, especially if the butter is hard, than is required by the use of the hand alone. To prepare the hands for working butter, rub them well with wet corn meal, then wash in water as hot as can be borne, plunge them into cold water for a moment, and you are ready to handle butter in the warmest weather without melting it, if it is done early in the morning before the hands get heated by exercise.

Salt should never be used for butter without sifting, and it should be of the very best quality of fine table salt. It is extremely disagreeable to encounter lumps of salt, either in

spreading or eating—what *should* and *is* such a luxury.

With good cows, well fed, and a place to raise the cream, there is no difficulty in the matter. If the natural richness of the milk does not impart sufficient color, take deep colored carrots (the Altringham is the best), grate fine, pour boiling water over pulp, and strain into the cream till sufficiently colored. So far from imparting a *carrot* taste, it gives additional sweetness and richness to the butter. Yolks of eggs beaten up, two to a gallon of cream, do very well. These are the only coloring materials I ever used.

D\*\*\*.

Ravenscroft, S. C., Oct. 8, 1856.

#### Agricultural Education.

The readers of the *Farmer*, no doubt, regard us as a friend to education. Indeed so earnest have we been in advocating a higher standard, particularly of agricultural education that we have occasionally received friendly hints that we are in danger of becoming an enthusiast on that subject. We have lost none of our ardor in the cause, nor has our faith in its ultimate success at all diminished. Our intercourse with farmers, and our knowledge of the rapid increase of agricultural books and papers in all parts of the country, assures us that the improvement of the mind as well as of the soil is steadily progressive. And we should rejoice could we believe that ought we have said or done has excited the desire or strengthened the purpose of improvement in a single breast.

We think it necessary, however, to caution the younger portion of our readers, particularly, against what we believe to be a great error in the common idea of what constitutes an education, and in what consists "the improvement of mind." In New England, where education is popular, where schools of all kinds are common, and where learning is sure to secure a good degree of respect and honor, we apprehend there is danger of unduly estimating the importance of the cultivation of the merely intellectual faculties. The improvement of the mind is sometimes spoken of by our correspondents as the only thing worth living for—the only source of happiness—the only earthly good, in such connections as to indicate that nothing more is intended than the teachings of the schools,—the attainment of scientific knowledge, and the refinement of the taste. That there is something radically wrong in this idea, is perhaps sufficiently proved by the fact that many return from the pursuit of such an education, to find with irrepressible bitterness that the home and occupation of their earlier years have lost their attractions, and that the knowledge which they hoped would cheer and enliven their toil, has utterly disqualified them for the enjoyment of a life so monotonous and laborious as that of the farm. Whether the picture of the home of his childhood, drawn on his return from college, by our correspondent "X. Z." in a late number of the *Farmer*, be a fact or a fiction so far as myself is concerned, we believe that, wrth the alteration of a single word, he expresses the feelings of many a youth on going from school.

"How changed is the home of my childhood!

No shade-trees, nor flowers, nor lawn,

Nor stream with its grove and its wild-wood;

And the joy of my heart—it is gone!"

And not only this, but in the dreary hours of this lonely room he may have read, that

"To think, is but to learn to groan,

"To scorn what all beside adore,

To feel amid the world alone,

And alien on a desert shore,"—

and pondered upon such sentiments until he regards

himself as necessarily one of the thinkers, and consequently bound to "seein what all beside adore," and to regard his proficiency in doing so a test of his scholarship.

Better, perhaps, than that of any other man, does the life of Lord Byron show how little the cultivation of the intellectual faculties, alone, can add to the real usefulness or happiness of the individual. In the history of nations, too, we often find the highest cultivation o' the head associated with the most deplorable rottenness of heart; the most sensitive taste with the most abandoned habits.

Something more than the "improvement of the mind," then, is needed. The moral as well as the mental powers must be developed. The mind may need improvement, but the heart needs it much more. Goodness is a far nobler object than greatness.

Was it not aimed at the one; Aaron Burr at the other. And we refer to the history of their lives for a further illustration of the idea we wish to enforce.

George Washington was born on a farm and entered upon the duties of life with but little education; Aaron Burr was reared in the atmosphere of a literary institution, at which graduated with distinguished collegiate honors, at the age of sixteen. How far the character of each was influenced by the circumstances of his youth, we shall not attempt to decide. Nor shall we stop to inquire how it has come to pass that such expressions as "an honest old farmer," and, "lying like a lawyer," have gained currency.—for we are not at present writing an essay upon the subject; we design simply to give utterance to a few suggestions.

However these points may be settled, we believe it may be said with safety, that if the farm does not stimulate the mind to the greatest degree of activity, it preserves the morals from many of the temptations which beset the path of the student. The Hon. J. B. O'Neal, of South Carolina, in a late publication, speaks of the graduates of a college in that State in the most desponding tone. He says he graduated in that college forty-three years ago last December; has been a trustee for thirty seven years, and has watched over its interests with all the care of a deep and abiding love; and yet of all the students graduating from 1806 to 1845, one fourth of the whole number have died drunkards, or are now drunkards—a shame to themselves, and a burden to their families! Yet drunkenness is but one of the vices to which young men are exposed when removed from the restraints of home, and exposed to the influence of promiscuous assemblages as are found at academies and colleges. Our own somewhat familiar acquaintance with the students of two or three colleges in New England, had prepared us for the statements above made; and we fear that an equal honest history of any other college in our country would present results fully as unfavorable.

What, then, shall be done? The thought with which we would close the article is this:—Until institutions are established that shall combine the practical with the theoretical, and blend work with study, a home education must be depended upon, especially for a farmers' son. The common school and the fireside, the town and neighborhood library and lyceum, with the agricultural paper, and habits of mental application, are means of improvement, whose power to elevate the mind has never yet been fully tested.

*To Prevent Cows from Holding up their Milk.*—The following, though going the rounds credited to another paper, appeared first in the *Agriculturist*, a year or two since. It will bear repeating. "One of the best methods to prevent cows from holding up their milk, is to feed them at the time of milking. If this is done, they will give down their milk freely. But if you neglect to feed them, they will hold it up, so that it is almost impossible to get any from them. Try the experiment of feeding them at milking."

## Wire Worms.

To a subscriber who appeals to us for information respecting the Wire worm, we would say, the remedies are numerous but none of them have proved universal in their benefits. Experiments have been made with various chemical substances, but what was found to destroy them, generally injured the plants. Quick-lime is recommended to be applied, but experiment has proved that an immersion of twenty-four hours in a quick-lime bath will not injure them. They will live for half an hour in aquafortis, which eats the mouth, but does not effect the body. A crop of buckwheat for two seasons on the same land, is said to destroy them. It is affirmed by some that late fall ploughing will destroy them, by exposing them to the frosts of winter, but it has not proved always effectual. Hog manure is recommended as proving too strong for them; this remedy should be tried effectually, for unlike many others, even though it does not effect the worm, is a first rate manure, especially for corn. Some say that guano will kill them, but experiments prove otherwise. Soda has been used at times with success. Salt has its advocates, but it is not a universal panacea. Flooding has been tried, but it cannot be drowned. Rolling is recommended to destroy them in grass lands, and we are inclined to recommend this remedy because the act itself is beneficial, even though the wire worm should still live.

For preserving the corn crop, it is recommended that the seed be steeped in strong copperas water, and rolled in plaster before planting. This may protect the grain, but we doubt its effect will not extend to the young plants. It is also announced that broken corn cobs mixed in the hills or sowed broadcast over the field and ploughed in, will attract them from corn, and lead them to feed on the pith of the cobb; but we would not trust to this remedy. It is remarked that certain plants have the power to expell the wire worm. These are woad and white mustard; an experiment in England has proved that if a crop of either of these plants be taken from a field infested with the wire worm, it will be completely expelled.

Considering its hardness of structure and tenacity of life, we have but little faith in the application of any preparation to the soil, to destroy, it, that will not injure the crops. After a careful examination and consultation of the authorities, we have but one remedy to suggest, which will destroy it, and that is fire.

We allude to the principal of paring and burning practised extensively in England for the purpose of improving the soil.

In executing this process, generally to the depth of three inches, is ploughed or pared up, (there are instruments made on purpose for it,) and allowed to dry. It is then harrowed and made fine; and brushwood laid in rows through the field, and the pared soil heaped on the brush, and all set on fire. It effectually destroys the roots and seeds of weeds, and all insects, their larvae and eggs. The burning is supposed to improve the land more than its cost, so that those who feel disposed to try

this plan have a certainty that the remedy will not cost as much as the injury received from the worms.—*Exchange.*

## On the training of Vines.

In the March number of Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture, we find a communication from C. A. Bracket, Esq., of Winchester, Mass., giving an account of his "little vineyard," and his mode of managing his vines. We are persuaded we cannot do our grape cultivating friend better service than by giving the following extract from his letter:

"My little vineyard," says he, "is situated on a side hill facing the west, protected on the north by a belt of pine woods. I should have preferred a more northern or eastern aspect. The soil is by no means what would be called a strong one; it consists of from four to six inches of turf mold, with a reddish subsoil about two feet deep, resting upon a bed of blue gravel. In preparing for the vines, the ground was trenched two feet deep, and the top soil put at the bottom. Stakes eight feet long were then at the distance of seven feet apart each way, one vine was planted to each stake, and immediately ent down to two eyes (or buds.) And here let me say a word as to the time of setting the vines. My experience is greatly in favor of fall planting. A vine set in Autumn (and it should be done as soon as the leaf falls,) will in three years be as strong and capable of bearing a crop of fruit as one of the five years old set in the Spring.

"The training of my vines is at once simple and ornamental. The first year two shoots are allowed to grow, and as they elongate are carried spirally, both in the same direction, about five inches apart around the stake, and this is continued until they reach the top. The laterals are allowed to grow at random. In the fall they should be pruned back within eighteen inches of the ground, and the laterals to one eye."

"Second year, continue the two canes from the two uppermost eyes, as directed in the first year. The laterals will require Summer pruning. In the fall, cut back the canes to within eighteen inches of last year's wood. Continue this course until the vine is established the whole length of the post, whatever surmounts it to be cut back. The fruit is grown upon the side shoots, and the pruning is on the short spur system. The form of the vine may be shaped to the taste of the cultivator; that of the pyramid is decidedly best.

Those who understand the nature of the vine will readily perceive the advantage this system offers. The vine is thus kept at home. The light and air circulate freely through it. The buds break easily, there is no tendency to rob the other of its due proportions of sap, and when once established requires less care than any other mode of training. Some of my vines, the first year after planting, were watered with sink drain water, and being satisfied that it injured them, I have discontinued the practice, and have since root pruned them, in order to check too free a growth of wood. Many of my neighbors injured their vines by giving them

large quantities of stimulating manures, such as fresh stable manures, dead horses, and other animal manures, thereby exciting them to make an increased growth of long-jointed wood. I grow my vines for the fruit, and am satisfied if they make a few feet of short-jointed wood, and the only manure (if manure it may be called) which I now use, is a top dressing of Anthracite coal ashes."

Mr. Bracket speaks highly of the Diana Grape, as being hardy, early, and the grape holding on well even if suffered to hang out late. We think his hints and experiment worth attending to.—*Exchange.*

#### Organic and Inorganic.

An organized body is one having organs to secure the purpose of its being. An animal has arteries, veins, nerves, and glands, a heart, lungs, stomach, &c.,—organs function in the economy of life. A plant has sap-vessels, secreting organs, leaves, buds and flowers. Crystals of the metals and minerals have their parts arranged by a law as definite and inflexible as the bodies themselves,—a kind of organization. A gathering of citizens becomes an organized body by the choice of moderator and clerk. A Legislature is organized by appointing speaker and clerk. These officers are organs by which the design of assembling is to be accomplished. But the terms organic and inorganic, as technically used in agriculture, have nothing to do with the object, design or arrangement of parts, but refer simply to the element or elements of which the body is composed. The terms, thus used, may be convenient, and are easily understood. If we burn a body, those portions which become gases and fly off, we call organic; those to which the fires gives no wings, we call inorganic. If we take a piece of hickory, for example, and burn, oxygen, carbon and hydrogen will fly off, and silicon, magnesia, potash, &c., will remain. If you burn a cabbage stump, nitrogen will be added to the winged product by burning. If you burn a fresh bone, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen and carbon will fly off, and lime, phosphorous, iron &c., will remain. The wood, the cabbage and the bone are organized bodies, composed of organic and inorganic substances, and, so far as we know the inorganic potash and lime are as essential to organization as the oxygen and hydrogen. The fact that when you destroy the organization by fire, one part flies away, certainly proves nothing on this point. The inorganic are frequently called mineral elements.

Were we to apply scientific accuracy to the terms organic and inorganic, we should find them in their best agricultural use, very indefinite and faulty. All would call a piece of chalk inorganic, and yet if you burn or heat it, almost half of it flies off in this same oxygen and carbon and the remainder lime; and even this lime, when subjected to a higher heat, is shown to be in part, a metal called calcium, in part this same winged oxygen. Inorganic water is composed wholly of the winged spirits, oxygen and hydrogen. So that the chemistry soon brings us to elements, and of these, one is just

as much organic, for ought we can see, as another. But in the agricultural use of the terms if you burn an organized body, those substances which pass off are called organic, those which remain in the form of ashes, inorganic.

[*Culturist and Gazette, Pittsfield.*]

#### The Restoration by Rest of Exhausted Land.

Our readers are well aware that we have always preached the doctrine that true rest of the soil was a proper rotation of crops; and therefore in referring to the above subject we do so only with a view of illustrating principles, and not as recommending as a rule the bare fallowing of soils for a great length of time.

It is true that many soils may be materially improved by the rest of a single season. Among these will be found gravelly soils, containing large amounts of organic matter, not decomposed, and requiring the direct heat of the sun on a soil not protected by a surface-crop to encourage their decomposition. The advantages arising to future crops by such treatment must therefore be evident. The inorganic matter contained in these roots so decomposed during the rest, as well as the organic matter, go to furnish the natural conditions for the reception of ammonia from the atmosphere, its retention from descending rains and dews, and its secondary effects in producing the necessary chemical changes upon the soil for the liberation of its organic constituents.

Soils that have been long used for wheat growing, become denuded of that portion of the potash and phosphates resident upon the surfaces of particles. It is only by rest, or green fallowing that such soils can be restored in localities where manures of the proper sorts are not attainable, and it is only in such localities that rest of soil, once under cultivation, can with propriety be recommended. The amount of alkalies consequent upon the decay of organic matter, furnish the means for the formation of soluble silicates, and hence the liberation of such inorganic materials as inhabit the ultimate particles of the soil thus denuded of their outer coatings, and producing new surfaces to supply vegetables with food.

Thus some of the coarse soils in Massachusetts, although containing all the inorganic requirements of plants, refuse to grow crops each year successively, simply because the soluble portions of the surfaces of the particles of the soil become removed by plants more rapidly than new portions can be rendered soluble for their use. Rest then causing the combined effects of chemical decomposition, heat, atmospheric air, &c., will liberate new portions of potash, soda, lime, magnesia, phosphoric acid, &c., &c., and it is for this reason, that lands, apparently exhausted, after two or three year's rest, will produce good wheat crops. In most localities, however, the missing ingredients of the soil, required by the crops may be added, and in such quantities as to supply the current crops, while nature's laws are setting from the undecomposed or undisintegrated particles of the soil, and as these amendments are of less cost

than the value of crops, they may be taken from the soil by the use of such amendments, without materially deferring the time when natural causes will render the soil self-ejective.

[*Working Farmer.*]

### How to Feed Young Horses.

The adult horse does not require so much of the flesh-making principle as the young and growing animal, but he seems to require a greater variety. The adult merely requires enough to replace the waste—the wear and tear of his system. If he obtains more than this, the surplus is either excreted from the body, or else stored up within the same in the form of fat, and everybody knows that a fat horse, or a fat man, are not best adapted for a race, nor for hard labor; but of all others (except those in a state of debility) they are most subject to acute disease. With the young and growing animal the case is different. Here we require bone, muscle and nerve. Oats, corn and pelleted grain furnish the same. The colt obtains from its mother's milk all the elements of its own organization in a concentrated form—all that seems necessary for developing bodily proportions and hereditary traits—therefore, when weaned, the colt must be furnished with the same equivalents in the form of fodder, ground oats, wheat bran, and meal.

It is the young and growing animal that requires our greatest attention. If our readers desire to raise colts that shall remunerate them for the trouble and expense incurred, they must feed the same, during their minority with a liberal hand. Any neglect at this period can never be made up in after life; the subjects will always remain lank and lean—living monuments of their master's folly, or ignorance, as the case may be. In addition to the food required for the colt's growth, we must also furnish enough to supply the waste incurred by expenditure of muscular power. We all know that the young are very active and playful. Every muscular movement involves an expenditure of vital force, and thus exhausts the system; therefore in view of developing their full proportions, and promoting the integrity of the living mechanism, they must have nutritious food, and plenty of it. They are not, however, to have a large quantity at a time, but little and often; the stomach is small, not larger than of a man. Should it be ever distended with coarse and ininutritious food, the organs of respiration and circulation become embarrassed, and the blood loaded with carbon. They require food often, because the digestive organs are very active, and soon dispose of an ordinary meal; then comes the sensation of hunger, which every one knows is hard to bear.—*American Veterinary Journal.*

From the New England Farmer.

### Keeping Dogs.

MR. EDITOR.—As your paper is in part devoted to the subject of raising and keeping stock, and as there is one kind of stock which can be easily shown to be not only unprofitable, but absolutely detrimental to the interests of our country, perhaps a few words on that subject might be acceptable.

A race of animals called dogs, considered by some indispensable, and yet in reality, such a nuisance, I would look at in the light of economy.

Now it is readily admitted that in some kinds of business a dog may be useful and even necessary, but I venture to say that in three cases out of four, they are infinitely worse than useless.

The farmer says a good dog is useful on the farm to protect his crops against the depredation of his neighbors, cattle, and to protect the lambs and poultry from the foxes and other wild animals and his clover from the wood chucks. I think no man deserves appella-

tion of "farmer," who needs a dog to protect his crops, and if we turn our sheep with young lambs into back pastures on our wild mountain farms, it is very few lambs that will be saved by the dog, and if, like some of our more prudent farmers, we keep them in a small lot near the barn, there is certainly no need of such a sentinel. The wood-chucks have done me some damage, but not one fourth part as much as my neighbors' dogs and boys in trampling down my crops, and tearing down my stone walls.

The mechanic, the doctor, the lawyer and many others have no pretéx whatever, only that "a good dog is a good thing, and it costs nothing to keep him," and I like a good dog and so I keep him." Well, now, how is it about the cost of keeping him? I notice when I go into a neighbor's house at the close of a meal that the good man or lady fills up a large plate with rich food for the dog, sufficient in quantity, if fed to the pig or the poultry to amount at least to \$5 a year; I think \$10 a year would be nearer the truth. Take the neighborhood where I live for a sample. We have one dog to every ten persons, or 272,811 in the New England States. What an army of dogs.

Supposing one in four to be really useful (which is the most I can possibly admit) and we have 204,608 useless dogs to support at a cost, according to the lowest estimation, of \$1,032,040. So much for the economy,—and now a few words for the convenience.

I have no disposition to abuse any dumb animal, and if I kept a dog, I should, like most others, suffer him to lie on the kitchen floor by the stove; but if my wife, in doing her work, was obliged every five minutes to step over or go around and kick out of the way a great lazy dog, I should expect her smiles would be few and far between, to say nothing of the disgust one feels when knocking at a neighbor's door to have the inmates obliged to wage a war of extermination with the dog before they can let us in and then ten to one but the first salutation will be from the gentleman with four legs.

II. BRIGGS.

*Fairhaven, Vt.*

*Caked Udder.*—A gentleman of this neighborhood gave us a few days since, a statement in regard to the care of one of his cows, which is worthy of record. He said, that the cow came from the pasture with her bag swollen and very hard, in such severe pain that she would not allow any one to touch it, but gave every evidence of being in the most excruciating agony. She was held, and her udder bathed with cool water some time, without producing any effect and other usual applications were resorted to; finally, knowing the effect of the tincture of *arnica* in allaying pain with the human subject, he brought some and applied a little of it to the bag. The cow ceased straining, and almost immediately gave evident manifestation of pleasure, allowing the swollen and hard mass to be rubbed and kneaded. After another application of the *arnica* and again rubbing a complete cure was affected. In a few days she regained her milk, and is now in as good case as before.

The use of *arnica*, if its virtues were known, would become much more general; we know of nothing that so soon removes the tenderness of a bruse or other injury. It relieves pain and soreness of the skin and muscles both in man and animals without the disagreeable accompaniments of many other application. This tincture is the best form for external application.

[*Homestead.*]

Perhaps some of our readers may know what "*arnica*" is, we confess we do not.—ED. F. & P.

*Poisoned Sheep.*—Poisen, from laurel and other plants, is cured by pouring a gill of melted lard down the throat; or boil an hour the twigs of the white ash, and give half to one gill of the liquor immediately—to be repeated if not successful.—*Allen.*




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## The Farmer and Planter.

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PENDLETON, S. C.

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Vol. VIII, No. 2, : : : : February, 1857.

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**The Farmer and Planter for February—Apology—Delinquents—Future Prospects, &c.**

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**OUR ADVERTISING SHEET**—Friends will please excuse the scant pattern of our overcoat this cold weather, which looks rather Ichabod Crane-ish, but we are compelled to cut according to our cloth. Our friends, **McBEE**, at Greenville, and **WALKER, WILKIE & Co.** of Charleston, must be scarce of rags, for neither can supply a sheet of suitable size to cover our nakedness. We hope for better “luck” in future, however, and beg the indulgence of our patrons until we may be able to procure better materials, when we promise them a *better* paper, both externally and internally, than we have heretofore given them. Having enlisted with a promise of the continued favors of our former sterling contributors, the very best agricultural talent of the State, we flatter ourself that we shall make the Farmer and Planter what we and its best friends have long since desired—one among the best agricultural papers South or any where else.

The kind greetings, ‘good wishes and congratulations of our many esteemed friends on sending up their contributions for the new year, are most gratifying and encouraging incentives to future exertions on our humble part to please all. But we respectfully say to others who are less mindful of our claims, and who have read our paper from *one* to *seven* years without paying for it, we are poorly *enough paid* for our services even when paid in advance. Please reflect that our devotion cannot sustain us without your help, and conduct yourself accordingly. All the *interest* we charge you is one additional subscriber for each year you are in arrears. Since the first of December we have lost many more subscribers than we have gained, and they are, with but few exceptions, such subscribers as have not promptly paid up their dues. We regard not so much the loss of *such* subscribers, as the amount many of them have clearly swindled us out of. But from the exertions of our friends and the friends of our cause, new names are beginning to come in, and with their continued exertions we yet hope to regain our loss, and very many additions of better material.

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### Col. Gage's Premium Essay.

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We feel quite sure we need make no apology to our readers for giving this excellent and most credita-

ble production entire in our present number, for we doubt whether its pages could be filled with matter more important or more interesting to the farmers and planters of the South. This essay, with another “on the reclamation of worn out lands,” from the same able pen, was read at our late Fair at Columbia, and received a premium each of thirty dollars over others of no ordinary pretensions, some of which will appear in future numbers of the Farmer and Planter. The one on the reclamation of worn out lands will appear in our March number.

But this is not all the valuable and interesting matter that will be found in this number of our paper, (many thanks to our kind contributors,) which comes nearer being made up original articles, we believe, than any former one we have published. This is gratifying to us, as it will be, no doubt, to our patrons, to whom we may here say, our prospects are most flattering of a continuance of such favors.

Our able corps of contributors—some of whom have retired from the field for a time, but who are returning with renewed vigor—most probably from the encouraging influence of the late State Fair, are coming up with redoubled energy to our assistance. We cordially invite all others to follow their praiseworthy and noble example. We know there are respectable and able writers for agricultural papers in our State, who write for papers *out of the State*, and who never have contributed a line to our columns. And there are many others (our subscribers) who might, if so disposed, give to their brother farmers and planters much light that they seem rather disposed to hide under a bushel, or whose false modesty deters them from “appearing in print.” This is not coming up to the golden rule, my friends. But whether you will write or not, our prospects are good for an able and untiring corps of contributors in future.

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### The State Agricultural Society.

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The great event of the season—so far as the agricultural community was concerned—the State Fair has in sporting parlance “come off”—the smoke and dust which was raised by the blowers and cantankerous quadrupeds—the excitement which beauty and booty always creates, has passed away, and we would ask what good has been effected.

“None,” says Judge O’NEAL, “but the distribution of dazzling premiums and a good deal of pomp and parade. Our Society (Newberry), says the learned Judge, *has done something*—it has scattered annually over the State its reports.” His Honor had on his judicial spectacles. Law reports are very necessary documents—it is all-important to fix in black and white that subtle intangible essence y’elep law, as quickly as possible; but reports do not reach the mass of farmers—these old working fellows have a veritable horror of book farming, of planting on paper, of working by the book. The State Agricultural Society has endeavored to do something more than make reports—it has, it is true, shot off its big gun, which has not only made a pretty loud report, but being loaded with silver bullets, has we, trust, in a degree, given a quietus to that

old witch, public opinion, which is ever on the line and cry after every thing that smacks of innovation. With the exception of a few terrapin-backed old fellows, and one or two wary watchers, who were trying to find out "who struck Billy Patterson," we have heard of no one who looked in without going away delighted and satisfied that there was something more than

"Reports on plowing, resting and rotation,  
And all such scientific botheration."

The simple fact established by Dr. PARKER, that 149 bushels of corn can be grown in South Carolina, by any mode of cultivation, on one acre of ground, will be a greater poser to all doubting old grumbler, (who think they know a thing or two,) than a volume of reports as big as the "statues at large." Newberry is not the State exactly, nor does it contain all the good planters, or the only Agricultural Society which has made good reports. We are willing to allow it a high position, but we are not willing to say that it is the centre and embodiment of all agricultural merit, and that the State Agricultural Society should be merged in the Newberry Society, even with its most ideatable President at the head. In the State Agricultural Society we do not wish to see any sectionalism—from the mountains to the seaboard we would like to encourage intercourse and competition. We go for the State and nothing but the State. We recognise no partiality for any particular section, and offer premiums within the reach of every body. We believe that the mere social results of this annual intercourse will be worth more to the State than her appropriation. Columbia is the seat of government—it is the most central and accessible point—her citizens have come forward with great zeal and liberality, and they will meet their reward doubtless socially and pecuniarily. During the last Fair the deposits in the banks gave the most satisfactory proof that Columbia had acted most sagaciously in this matter.

A very intelligent gentleman from North Carolina, said to us the other day, "our people came down here, sir, and were so delighted with every thing they saw, that upon returning home, they got up in our little County an Agricultural Society with a large list of life members, at \$20 each, and they are going to offer bigger premiums than your Society; next year we'll send you down ten visitors to where you had one from 'Old Rip,' at the last Fair." Is not this encouraging? But there are "tribulation and trepids" in all communities, and we would suggest to the Executive Committee; if they want a general turn out, to offer a \$100 premium for the best thorough-bred, grade or native, grumbler, exhibited at the next Fair. Won't friend SIMKINS back our judgment?

#### The Weather.

So much has been felt and published of the weather for the last two weeks, that we need say nothing except as a record in our own paper for future reference. After several days of dry but very cold weather, on Friday night, the 16th, at Pendleton it commenced raining, rained through the day of Saturday. Sometime in the night a heavy blow and slow storm came

on and continued to snow through the day of Sunday. At night it became intensely cold, our thermometer at sunrise indicating 9° above zero (some were down to 3 or 4, as we understand). Tuesday morning the mercury stood about 1° higher. At night another light snow, and from that through the week spits of snow daily, more or less, with continued cloudy and very cold weather. Sunday, clear and not so cold. Monday, cloudy, with rain and sleet at night. Tuesday, Wednesday, rain. Thursday road thawing and almost impassable. Friday, rain and sleet in the morning, and heavy rain through the day and night. Saturday, cloudy till afternoon, when old Sol once more condescended to raise his veil and give us the light of his countenance. And although the weather has greatly moderated the fire is puffing away ("treading snow") again, and we should not be surprised—for it is the best sign we have ever known—to be aroused again in three mornings, "just at the break of day," by the joyful song of our "brats," "Snow, snow, snow, Oh! what a beautiful snow. No school to-day."

#### Land for Sale.

The the Hugher tract of land we advertised for sale last year, is still in market. Any gentleman or lady in the low country wanting a comfortable summer residence and stock farm, will do well, perhaps, to examine it during summer. If desired, we will sell the stock, agricultural implements, &c., &c., with the farm, all on fair terms, and on a credit to suit the purchaser.—ED.

#### Millet Seed.

We have on hand some 10 or 12 bushels of the small variety of Millet, probably the *Panicum Millaceum*, which we will sell at one dollar per peck, put up in a bag and delivered at the Anderson Depot. We paid at the rate of seven dollars a bushel when we last bought in Charleston. The seed may be sown in April. At least a half bushel of seed should be sown to the acre.

#### The Blue Ridge Rail Road.

The article below, we take from the "Patriot and Mountaineer." How is it, said we at the Agricultural Fair, at Columbia, to a defeated Candidate of Greenville, that Col. Perry, who has been and now is, a warm friend and advocate of the Blue Ridge Rail Road, was elected over your head who expected to ride into office on the Anti-Blue Ridge hobby? His answer was, Col. Perry is pledged to oppose the Blue Ridge in future, although he has heretofore supported it." We remarked, we will not be so impolite as to contradict you, sir; but we read weekly the Patriot and Mountaineer. If Col P. has made any such pledge, it has not appeared in his paper, nor have we heard it from any one except yourself.

We greatly regretted whilst in the Legislature, to see the fixed opposition of our eastern friends

with a few exceptions, to this very important (not sectional) State measure, and if Col. Perry had embraced all the Districts of the State, with Greenville, Anderson and Pickens, we should have considered his remarks equally applicable. For from North to South and between East and West all—*all* should feel an interest, and embracing all other districts besides the above we would especially recommend to the consideration of our friends of the "Carolina Spartan," the remarks of Col P., notwithstanding his pledge "not to support the Blue Ridge Rail Road in future."

The Editors of the Spartan have taken upon themselves the censorship of our Legislature on its "profligate swindle," of allowing Judge Frost to be heard at the bar of the House for *three mortal hours*, "for allowing lobby members and paid advocates to enter your legislative halls to over influence your representatives to vote for particular measures," we may of course take upon ourselves a full share of the odium tended to be cast upon the House for this "shameless proceeding," having moved the resolution that "Judge Frost, the President of the Blue Ridge Rail Road, be heard at the bar of the House, &c., notwithstanding, according to Mr. Middleton, it was an unparliamentary procedure (we wonder that the Spartan did not happen to hear what Col. Perry and Mr. Pope said to the contrary, on this point) and the "crowning indignity" offered to the "righteous men that saved Sodom."

We would say to our friends of the "Spartan," in conclusion, we much regret the necessity of noticing such sectional and uncalled for *flings* at the honorable body of Legislators of our State, nor should we notice them but for the fact that we felt ourselves personally alluded to. Why do not the Editors of the Spartan take to task the advocates at the late session of an appropriation to the Spartanburg and Union Rail Road? for being "buttonholed and champaigned and won over by one lure and another to vote for particular measures." The refusal of aid to this measure, *may* in certain quarters be felt more sensibly than the indignity offered to the House in a motion to hear Judge Frost at its bar. Farmers and planters sometimes have "log rollings," and so do Legislators; we believe. It is well enough to be neighborly, *our dogs may need rolling before long.*

THE BLUE RIDGE RAIL ROAD.—This Road, west of Pendleton village, except at the Tunnel, has been suspended for the ensuing year. In consequence of this suspension, we were told by a

contractor on the road, that corn had fallen in price from one dollar to sixty cents a bushel at the Tunnel! Labor, the poor man's support, must likewise fall from fifteen to eighteen dollars per month. So much for having money disbursed amongst us. Never was there a more foolish idea than that of objecting to the Blue Ridge Rail Road by the citizens of Greenville, Pickens and Anderson. They are repaid tenfold, by the disbursement of the money in constructing the road, for all the taxes they will ever have to pay on account of the road. The cost of the road is paid by the people of the lower country, who pay the most of taxes which go into the public treasury. Independent of this, the city of Charleton subscribed towards the road one million of dollars, whilst the people of Greenville have not subscribed one dollar! But none of this money is to be spent in Charleston. Two millions will be spent in Pickens and Anderson Districts. And yet the people of these Districts are opposed to the construction of the road!—"Penny wise and pound foolish," is very applicable to those who pay fifteen thousand dollars towards an enterprize, and have disbursed amongst them two millions in carrying it on to completion.

#### Acknowledgments.

We are indebted to the polite Secretary, J. Q. Arms, Esq., for a very neatly bound copy of the "Transactions of the New Hampshire State Agricultural Society," containing the Constitution of the Society, with a list of officers from its commencement in 1849, to the present time. Also, an interesting account of the Sixth Annual Fair, held in 1855, with full reports of Awarding Committees, premiums, &c., &c. A report of the Secretary, and condensed reports of the County Societies, with answers by many farmers of the State to a number of queries put by the Secretary. And upon the whole, so far as we have been able to examine it, a work that entitles the Secretary to much credit.

To Messrs. FOWLER & WELLS, the polite Editors of the "Phrenological" and "Water-Cure" Journals, we are also indebted for a copy each of their very neat "Illustrated Phrenological and Water-Cure Almanacs" for 1857, containing several portraits of distinguished men, with some remarks on the phrenological developments of each. Also a catalogue of works on Phrenology, Water-Cure, Physiology, Mesmerism, Psychology, a prospectus of the Phrenological and Water-Cure Journals, &c., &c., with much other useful and interesting matter. Price 6 cents per copy, 25 copies for \$1.

*Flower Seed.*—Mr. ROBERT NELSON, of Macon, Ga., will accept our thanks, and more especially those of our "better half," for a package of choice Flower Seeds, which we are right sure will be taken special care of. We recommend our lady readers especially, to examine Mr. NELSON's list of seeds, which will be found with his advertisement in this number, and to select such as they may desire to purchase, as no doubt they will find most, if not all of them, worthy of their attention.

*The Chinese Prolific Pea.*—To D. REDMOND, Esq., of the "Southern Cultivator," we wish pleasure acknowledge our indebtedness for the offer of a package of this, as is said to be, most valuable pea. From the many favorable reports we have seen of it in our exchanges, we can scarcely doubt that this pea is all that is claimed for it, and are pleased, through the politeness of Mr. REDMOND, to have it in our power shortly to test its claims. For a further account of the

Chinese Pea, we refer our readers to Mr. REDMOND's advertisement.

*Agricultural Address.*—The Hon. A. WHYTE, of York District, will accept our thanks for his kind letter, accompanied by the excellent and most encouraging Address of ALBERT P. JOHNSON, Esq., delivered before the "Indian Land Agricultural Society," Nov. 6th, 1856. Such appeals are calculated to do great good in every community. Would to God we had more Societies and more such speakers; both are much needed to arouse—if any thing will—the dormant energies of our agriculturists. Without something to stimulate them to action, it is not worth while to attempt publishing *one*, let alone two agricultural papers in our State. We should be pleased if we had room to give the Address of Mr. JOHNSON entire to our readers. We may do so yet, at any rate shall make liberal extracts from it.

#### Our Exchanges.

With but few exceptions our former exchanges have come to hand, some of them much enlarged and improved in appearance at least, for it was more difficult to improve them in contents. The "Southern Planter" we see is trying the experiment of doubling its size and subscription price. We hope it may succeed, but it is a difficult matter to obtain more than *one dollar* for an agricultural paper, no matter how large or valuable. That the "Planter" is worth the price asked for it in its present shape, there can be no doubt.

*The Soil of the South and American Cotton Planter.*—Two of our favorite exchanges have mingled their waters, and given us a beautiful and enlarged production, most worthy its parentage.

*The Medical and Surgical Journal, Augusta Ga.*—The January number of this excellent work has come to hand, as all its numbers punctually do. We are not much of a Doctor, but believe that a single article in this last number on Typhoid Fever, is worth, to any Physician who does not know too much to learn any thing more, many times the subscription price (\$3) of the paper.

But we have not room to notice our most respectable list of exchanges separately. Suffice it to say they are all good and more than worth the price asked for them.

To our many friends of the news press we feel under renewed obligations for their kind and polite notices from time to time of our humble efforts in the great and good cause in which we are engaged.

#### From "One of the Committee," REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

We have received the following communication from one of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, at a very late date, but have laid aside other matters set up for this number in order to give it a place, it being important to all concerned.

As to the announcement of the Greenville Pa-

riot" alluded to, we remark that if Maj. Perry was in error in making the statement, *we* in all probability led him into it for we recollect saying to him during the session of the Legislature and near its close we think, and after we had had a conversation with some of the members of the Executive Committee, that we had understood the South Carolina Agriculturist would be discontinued and that the printing of the proceedings of the Society would in future be given to the Farmer and Planter, or something to that amount. We do not pretend to give the exact words. But what we *did* state we had so understood in the conversation above alluded to with the Committee. We may have used the words "adopted as the organ;" for such in fact, it would be, so far as the Society's printing is concerned, but no further. The Committee, as will be seen below, claim no control over the Farmer and Planter, but have generously resolved to place in our hands for publication all such matter as they may think proper to publish,

The proceedings of the Executive Committee, a copy of which has been sent us by "One of the Committee," will be found on another page. It was taken from one of the Charleston papers, and set up before receiving the copy. We were not aware that the proceedings of the Committee had been published till we saw it recently in the paper from which we extract.

MR. EDITOR:—The announcement some time since in the Greenville "Patriot & Mountaineer," that the publication of the "South Carolina Agriculturist" had been abandoned, and the Farmer and Planter adopted by the Ex. Committee as the organ of the So. Ca. Agricultural Society, seems to have "gone the rounds of the newspapers," and to be the cause of some little trouble to yourself, as well as misconstruction of the Committee's designs. It was the design of the Ex. Committee to publish as soon as possible, (and it was placed in the hands of the printer before 20th December,) a Supplement to the South Carolina Agriculturist, embracing the Premium List for 1857, and their reasons for suspending the publication of an Agricultural Journal under the direction of the State Agricultural Society. The above unofficial announcement of the Patriot has drawn the fire of the Ex. Committee, and forced it to publish their proceedings, of which we send you a copy.

Under the Constitution of the State Agricultural Society it became the duty of the Ex. Committee to establish an Agricultural Journa

wherever and whenever in their opinion it should be deemed expedient. It was announced in the first number that "all the arrangements for *one year* were completed and guaranteed," and that the Journal would be sent *free* to all Life Members who had paid up their dues.—No one could argue from this announcement that the Ex. Committee was pledged to continue to publish the Journal, when experience had taught them it was inexpedient.

Induced by the signs of the times to believe that the time had come for such an organ, the Committee made an effort to respond to the wishes of the people. It is but too plain that it was mistaken. The State of South Carolina, containing a population of 41,302 (more than two-thirds) engaged in Agriculture, could parade but about 700 paying subscribers to an Agricultural journal worth only \$1 per annum. It was resolved under this state of things to suspend the publication of the journal, and place in the hands of the Editor of the Farmer and Planter all matter for publication in any way touching the Agricultural interest of the State. The Ex. Committee neither had nor have any control over the "Farmer and Planter," its veteran Editor is still at the helm, alone responsible and proud of his responsibility. How any "Life Member" could take up the idea that he was to be supplied with a copy of the "Farmer and Planter" gratis, is inconceivable. If it be expected of the Society to provide each Life Member with a newspaper and a free ticket at the Fairs, the sooner the Life Membership is abolished the better. They would get more than the interest of their money back, and the only hope of profit to the Society would be their death, which God forbid! We want the use of their money, and what is we hope of far more importance to society, the best energies of a long life devoted to the improvement of the Agricultural condition of the State and the elevation of its Agricultural tone and intelligence.

ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

**Grafting—Enquiry and Remarks.**

MR. EDITOR:—Will you or some of your correspondents through the medium of your valuable journal give us the proper time and mode of grafting—time of cutting, and how to preserve the grafts—and everything connected with the business, so as to secure the growth of the grafts. I have no doubt from the increasing desire of our farmers and planters to propagate good fruit this information would be desirable to others, as well as myself, if given in time to be acted on the present season.

Also, will you give us a method to cure or prevent the rot or raffles in sheep. I have recently lost two valuable sheep by this disease, as I suppose, and have several others similarly affected. I have tried letting them run at large in day time, and having a good shelter well littered accessible to them at night, and given them freely salt and lime without any benefit, and would be glad of any further information as I know not how to prevent the disease myself.

I intended to have written a plan of a cheap barn and cow-shelter, which I have had in use for the last three winters, but suppose that the large increase of your correspondents, consequent on your late appointment, will make any thing which I could write not worth the space it would occupy.

T.

*Gowdeyeville, S. C., Jan., '57.*

REMARKS:—T. comes out so late with his inquiry on grafting, that we have time and space only for a little information on the subject, we cannot now go into a description of all the various modes of grafting. *Cleft Grafting* is in more common use we believe than any other. It is the modo that we prefer, either on the limbs of large trees, or on seedling stocks cut off at the ground, or higher up if preferred; we have many trees grafted three feet from the ground. At whatever point it is determined to insert the graft, the stock should be cut smooth off. A cleft about two inches should be made in the stock with a hammer and splitting knife, if the stock is large. You next prepare the scion by sloping the but end in the form of a wedge about an inch and a half long leaving it a little thicker on the outer edge.—Then open the cleft with your knife, or a small chisel, and push the scion carefully down to the head of the slope, taking care that the inside bark of the scion and stock rest in contact so that the sap may pass from one to the other.—If the stock is large, say three fourths or one inch or larger in diameter, we usually insert two scions. After the graft is inserted, use slips of old cotton shirting, on strong paper, about half an inch wide on which grafting wax has been spread whilst warm. With one of these slips of sufficient length according to the size of the limb or stock, commence wrapping at or a little above the split, and wrap up close to the head of the stock which should be carefully covered so as to exclude air and water. This course is pursued where the grafts are put on limbs or above the ground. But if the stock is cut off at the ground, then the wax

is unnecessary. Common mortar made of soil, not too stiff, answers every purpose. Take a ball as large as a goose egg, break it into two equal parts, and fit and press closely and carefully around the stump and a portion of the graft. Then make a small hillock of dirt over it leaving out one or two buds, and all is safe if protected from the scratching of hens, &c. Scions may be cut at any time from the fall of the leaf to the time of grafting. If cut before you are ready for grafting (we sometimes take from one tree and graft immediately upon another), the scions should be placed in sand in a cool cellar, or tied in bunches and buried in a cool, dry place, till wanted.

*The proper time* for grafting is in the spring, as soon as the sap is in motion. From the middle of February to the middle of March is about the proper time in our climate.

*Grafting Wax.*—We make with beeswax, Linseed oil and rosin, just stiff enough to stick when applied. Some use tallow, but we prefer the oil. Some valuable information will be found by T. in our present number on grafting the peach, &c.

The following proceedings of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, we find in the Charleston Mercury of a late date. Why it was not sent to the Farmer and Planter, as has been asked us, we know not. Such information will, in future, we presume, first appear in the F. & P.

We regret that the premium list for 1857, has not come to hand in time for our February number. It should have been published in January, or at least so much of it as relates to field crops and the products of the garden. Anticipating premiums for all such, however, we would advise our readers to begin to make preparations if they intend competing.

#### The State Agricultural Society.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 17.—The Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society met to-day at the Society's rooms, according to a ljourment. Present—A. P. Calhoun, J. F. Marshal, J. U. Adams, E. G. Palmer, A. G. Summer, and R. J. Gage; Dr. R. Harlee absent from indisposition.

The committee revised the premium list, made many important amendments suggested by the experience of the late Fair, and ordered it to be printed and distributed as soon as possible.

The committee examined the Secretary and Treasurer's accounts, found vouchers for accounts rendered, and made the necessary arrangements for the next year's operations, which they trust will end in more brilliant results than

the last.

After the most careful deliberations upon the aim and objects of the State Agricultural Society, the committee have been most reluctantly driven to the conclusion that it is their duty to suspend "pro tem," the publication of the South Carolina Agriculturist.

The roll of paying subscribers to that

Journal falls short of 700	700
Revenue from advertising	300
	\$1,000

It requires no argument to prove from these figures that the cost of printing of the Journal and the salary of an editor, would force the Committee to touch upon funds of the Society, which might be more advantageously devoted to other measures going directly and efficiently toward the development of the agricultural resources of the whole country.

It requires no inconsiderable amount of money to conduct a State Fair upon a proper scale—the premium list, the improvement and preservation of the grounds, the insurance and protection of the buildings, the erection of new fixtures and conveniences necessary for the comfort and accommodation of visitors, the pay of the various employees required, &c., all consume a deal of money and time. Hence the Committee think it their duty to direct the means placed in their hands by the liberality of the State and the members of the Society, toward the success of the annual exhibitions rather than the supply of an agricultural literature.

A. G. Summer declining a re-election, R. J. Gage was unanimously elected Secretary and Treasurer to succeed him as early in 1857 as the arrangements between them will admit. On all business connected with the interests of the Society, address R. J. Gage, Fair Forest, S. C.

A. G. SUMMER, Secretary and Treasurer.

The following gentlemen have been appointed by the president of the South Carolina Agricultural Society under a resolution of Major Seaborn, at the late anniversary, to "solicit subscriptions for life membership:"

Greenville—Dr. A. B. Crook.

Pickens—A. F. Lewis, Esq.

Anderson—S. G. Earle, Esq.

Laurens—Dr. J. W. Simpson.

Abbeville—Col. A. M. Smith.

Union—Gen. S. R. Gist.

York—John L. Miller, Esq.

Spartanburg—Simpson Bobo, Esq.

Chester—C. D. Melton, Esq.

Fairfield—Franklin Gaillard, Esq.

Richland—Col. Wm. Wallace.

Kershaw—Hon. James Chesnut, Jr.

Chesterfield—Dr. T. E. Powe.

Marlboro—J. W. Harrington, Esq.

Darlington—Samuel W. Evans, Esq.

Marion—W. S. Mullins, Esq.

Horry—Robert Munro, Jr., Esq.

Georgetown—Dr. G. R. Sparkman.

Clarendon—J. P. Richardson, Jr., Esq.

Sumter—Col. J. Sinkler Moore.

Williamsburg—Rev. James Wallace.

St. John's Berkley—J. Dubose Porcher, Esq.

St. Stephen's—Hon. W. Mazyck Porcher.

Edisto Island—Hon. John Townsend.

Charleston---Hon. Richard Yeadon.

Beaufort---Hon. B. J. Johnson.

Colleton---Major Charles Warley.

Barnwell---Col. A. P. Aldrich.

Orangeburg---Hon. O. M. Dantzler.

Lexington---Joseph Wingard, Esq.

Newberry---Dr. W. H. Harrington.

Edgfield---S. S. Tompkins, Esq.

Under the resolution of Mr. Dantzler, "to appoint a Committee of Three from each district in the State to solicit a plow stock most commonly used therin, together with specimens of every kind of plow to be brought for exhibition to our next Fair," the President makes the following appointments:

Pickens---J. W. Crawford, W. R. Calhoun, J. C. Miller.

Anderson---W. H. D. Gaillard, Dr. O. R. Broyles, Major George Seaborn.

Greenville---Dr. Randall Croft, Dr. A. B. Crook, Alexander McBee.

Spartanburg---Dr. J. Winsmith, Col. J. W. Crook, Dr. James Vernon.

Union---Dr. George Douglass, R. T. Gist, W. S. Dogan.

Laurens---Dr. B. James, Dr. A. C. Fuller, Dr. J. A. Metts.

Newberry---Col. J. P. Kinard, Col. S. Fair, J. S. Henderson.

Lexington---J. C. Hope, Herhard Muller, Gen. P. Quattlebaum.

Orange---J. M. Dantzler, Jacob Stroman, D. F. Jamison.

Edgfield---Arthur Simkins, Richard Ward, Z. W. Carwile.

Barnwell---James Patterson L. M. Ayer, John E. Tobin.

Colleton---Burwell Saunders, Lewis O'Brian, J. F. Perry.

Beaufort---Robert Chisolm, Geo. P. Elliott, Edmund Rhett.

Charleston---Jas. F. O'Hear, Peter Gourdin, W. M. Porcher.

Georgetown---J. Izard Middleton, J. Harleston Reid, B. H. Wilson.

Horry---Joel P. Skipper.

Marion---J. E. Gregg, Col. R. G. Howard, John McClannan.

Dalton---Col. J. D. Melver, Edward Evans, R. L. Hart.

Williamsburg---Dr. Robert Gourdin, J. A. Keels, R. A. Keels.

Sumter---Dr. J. M. Pitts, Col. M. J. Kennedy, Jno. B. Moore.

Clarendon---Warren Nelson, Chas. Richardson, jr., Col. Richard Richardson.

Kershaw---Gen. W. J. Taylor, John Rosser, T. J. Ancrem.

Chesterfield---Allen McFarlan, J. E. B. Cash, J. W. Blakeney.

Lancaster---Dixon Barnes, Geo. Witherspoon, Jas. Cunningham.

Fairfield---J. D. Strother, J. N. Shedd, Dr. H. H. Clark.

Richland---H. D. Hamiter, F. Bulkley, Col. F. Hampton.

Chester---Samuel McAliley, Adam Walker, Jas. J. McLure.

York---Col. A. B. Spring, Col. Wm. Wright, Col. J. Rawlinson.

Atbeville---Dr. J. P. Barret, J. C. Norwood, and A. C. Hawthorn, Esq.



## Ladies' Department.

From the Ohio Cultivator.

### Young Ladies should be Natural.

"Do other people wear them so?" asked a little four years old pet where we were visiting, as we adjusted a part of her clothes according to our own fancy. We were almost startled by the thought that so young a child should have learned the importance of doing as *others* do. It seems indeed to be one of the first principles engrailed on the minds of most children, that we must follow the lead of others around us. How do others do and what will they think, not what is appropriate, right or best, controls the mother, and the child soon learns the lesson. And this seems to grow with their growth and strengthen with their strength, till they become to a great extent, *artificial* characters. They do not live out *their own lives*, and hence discontent, anxiety and unhappiness follow, to themselves and those immediately around them.

The over eager desire for dress, style and equipage similar to those whom we—shall I say it?—envy, has done incalculable mischief, and the same dread of singularity extends to our habits of thought and action. We seek to conceal ourselves and appear as another. It makes one's heart ache to know how much of the apparent life and happiness that we see around us, is a mockery—how much hollowness there is in our social life, because we try to be what others are, and do what others do, whether we have the appropriate natural gifts, and the appropriate aids, or not. We seek to be something different from what we are or should be, and have too little independence. We are too often afraid to express an opinion or be known as the advocates of a reform or measure which others condemn.

You should take a pride, in having an *individual* character. God has given each of you *peculiar* traits and dispositions and talents, and it is one of the most important duties of life to become acquainted with ourselves, that we may know what traits to foster, and what to suppress; and having ascertained your own powers susceptibilities and tastes, set yourselves to improve in your line; for constant progression constant improvement should be counted a necessity—but it should be a natural, healthy, growth, not a mere imitation.

Individuality is more cultivated among men,

than by our own sex, we believe. We regret it is so, and yet are not surprised, for from childhood our training is usually such as to make us fearful of occasioning remark or drawing down censure. We do not dare to be singular.—Some on the contrary, despising this as affectation, fall into the opposite extreme, and take particular pains to appear eccentric, to excite the wonder and censure of others. This affectation of oddity is as objectionable as the opposite; the only remedy for either, is to look more at the mind and heart and less at the outward appearance, both in controlling ourselves and judging others.

A wise independence of character, where *nature* followed and cultivated belongs to the true nobility, and will so be estimated by all who are noble enough to appreciate it. Teachers would accomplish more for their pupils, and confer a benefit upon the entire community if they would take more pains to cultivate individuality in their pupils. Children are not constituted alike and a teacher with ordinary tact can soon discover for what each one has a natural fitness, and while there are studies which all should master, there are some which each child is quicker to learn than others, and in which he should be encouraged to excel.

The idea that children or young people should all be moulded to the same form, is absurd, contrary to nature, and causes a great loss to society. How often, especially in cities, are misses compelled to practice the piano year after year when they have no love for it—no ear for music, when half the time thus bestowed would have made an excellent accountant, housekeeper, or proficient with the pencil, or an accomplished writer. And we might mention many other similar mistakes and consequent failures.

In England they commonly manage these things more wisely. For instance, if there be a family of daughters, while all have good opportunities for education, their natural inclinations and tastes are carefully watched by the parents, and their education conducted accordingly; and the result is, one becomes perhaps a proficient in music, another in painting or designing, a third makes a capital housekeeper, while a fourth becomes an excellent accountant and book-keeper, or having a fondness for out of door pursuits, becomes a scientific botanist or geologist, or both.

How much pleasanter to visit a family thus educated than one where all are modeled alike, and if the pleasure of others is thus augmented how much more must be that of the young ladies themselves.

J. C. B.

#### A Wife's Influence.

A woman, in many instances, has her husband's fortune in her power, because she may or may not conform to his circumstances. This is her first duty, and it ought to be her pride. No passion for luxury or display ought to tempt her for a moment to deviate in the least degree from this line of conduct. She will find her respectability in it. Any other course is wretchedness itself, and inevitably leads to ruin.

Nothing can be more miserable than to keep up appearances. If it could succeed, it would cost more than it is worth; as it never can, its failure involves the

deepest mortification. Some of the sublimest exhibitions of human virtue have been made by women who have been made by women who have been precipitated suddenly from wealth and splendor to absolute want.

Then a man's fortunes are in the hands of his wife inasmuch as his own power of exertion depends on her. His moral strength is inconceivably increased by her sympathy, her counsel, her aid. She can aid him immensely by relieving him of everything which she is capable of taking upon herself. His own employments are usually such as to require his whole time and his whole mind.

A good wife will never suffer her husband's attention to be diverted by details to which her own time and talents are inadequate. If she be prompted by true affection and good sense, she will perceive that when his spirits are borne down and overwhelmed, she of all human beings, can minister to its needs. For the sick soul her nursing is quite as sovereign as it is for corporeal ills. If it be weary, in her assiduity it finds repose and refreshment. If it be harassed and worn to a morbid irritability, her gentle tones steal over it with a soothing more potent than the most exquisite music.

If every enterprise be dead, her patience and fortitude have the power to rekindle them in the heart, and he again goes forth to renew the encounter with the toils and troubles of life.—*Life Illustrated*.

*Educate your Daughters*—A writer says:—When I lived among the Choctaw Indians, I held a consultation with one of their chiefs respecting the successive stages of their progress in the arts of civilized life; and among other things he informed me at their first start they fell into a great mistake—they only sent their boys to school.

They became intelligent men, but they married uneducated and uncivilized wives, and the uniform result was, that the children were all like the mothers; and soon the father lost his interest in both wife and children. And "now," says he, "if we could educate only one class of our children, we would choose the girls; for when they become mothers, they would educate their sons." This is to the point, and it is the point.

No nation can become fully and permanently civilized and enlightened, when the mothers are not, to a good degree, qualified to discharge the duties of home education.

*To prevent Flannel from shrinking.*—Put new flannel in cold water and let it boil before making it up, this will prevent it from shrinking afterward.

White flannel should be washed in a hot suds made with hard soap, and rinsed in hot water.

*To put a fine gloss on Silk.*—Take a fair white potatoe, cut it in very thin slices, pour on it boiling water, let stand till rather cool, take out the slices of potatoe, run your silk through this water, squeeze out smooth while damp, and you will have a very superior gloss. I tried this on black silk, and found it to answer well. If it should not answer on lighter colours, try the following one. If a quantity of silk, of course proportion your potatoe.

*Another way*—Instead of potatoes use a small quantity of isinglass, dissolved in water. Use it the same as the above in every particular, one oz. of isinglass will answer 1 lb. of silk.

*Ringbone on Horses.*—Take high wines of cider brandy, add saltpetre as much as will dissolve, and wash the ringbone two or three times a day. One of my neighbors cured one of three or four years standing, by the application of this a few times.—*Boston Cult.*